

## PROSPECTUS

### SHAKESPEARE IRELAND'S SEVEN AGES

Tomorrow, & tomorrow, & tomorrow  
Creeps in this petty pace from day to day  
To the last syllable of recorded time  
And all our yesterdays have lighted fools  
The way to dusty death. — Shakespeare

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When retailing literary & other anecdotes to the circle of his friends, the writer was so incessantly importuned to give them publicity, that he at length undertook the task, which proved far more arduous than he had anticipated. This difficulty originated in being compelled to rely on memory for the major part of the labour; & when the chequered life of the author is taken into consideration, & the necessity of recapitulating events for nearly half a century past be considered, it will not appear singular that the manuscript should have occupied a greater portion of time in completing, than had been calculated upon at its commencement.

The following heads condense a cursory view of the subject matter of the intended publication.

#### FIRST AGE

Period of infancy & early scholastic acquirements in England, containing an account of the associations of Mr. Samuel Ireland, the writer's father, with Men of Literature, Artists, Theatrical Characters, &c, among whom may be enumerated, the late Earl of Exeter, Hogarth, General Burgoyne, Bennet Thornton, R.B. Sheridan, M.P. Garriek, Macklin, Gentleman Smith & Mr. King, the comedians; Captain Grese, Messrs Mortimer, Ryland, Boydell, Woollett, Westall, George Steevens, Lindley &c. &c.

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Tomorrow, & tomorrow, & tomorrow  
Groups in this party pass from day to day  
To the last available of recorded time  
And all our vestments have lighted fools  
The way to dusty death. - Shakespeare

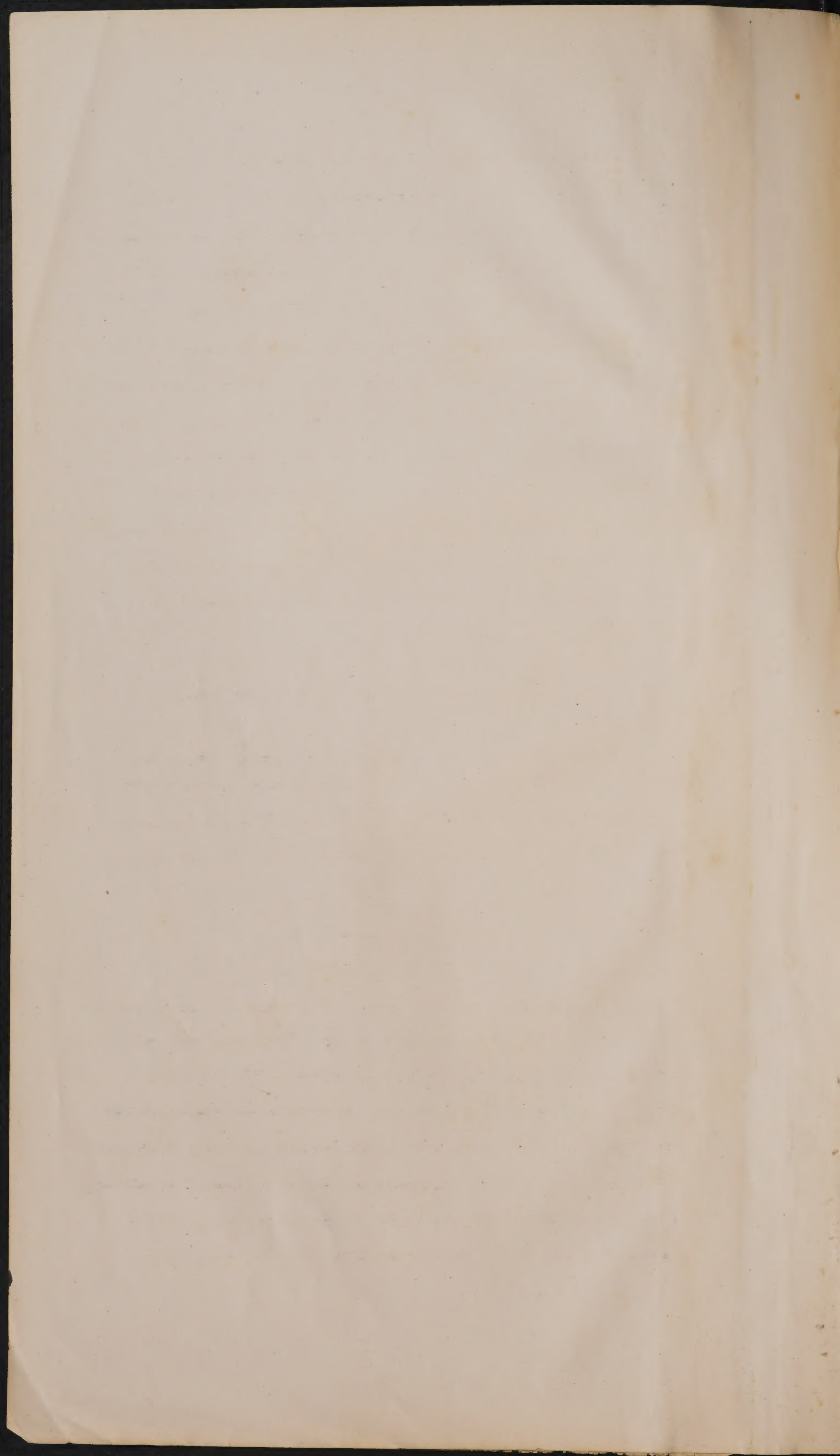
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Earl of Essex, Lord North, General Burgoyne, General Thompson,  
Thurston, M.P. Carrick, Macklin, Gentlemen Smith & Mr. King,  
Comedians; Captain Green, Messrs Mortimer, Ryland, Boydell,  
etc, Westall, George Steevens, Ladbroke &c. &c.









# *Shakspeare Ireland's Seven Ages*

## SECOND AGE

The Author's education at the College of Amiens in Picardy, & Eu in Normandy, subsequent visit to Paris *in 1805* with a series of unpublished anecdotes of many prominent characters who figured at the commencement of the French Revolution. Among the latter may be particularised, Louis XVI, Marie Antoinette, Madame Elizabeth, the Dauphin, the Princess his sister (now Duchess d'Angouleme), the late Duke of Orleans (Egalite'), his Duchess, & her father, the Duke de Penthièvre; Necker, Mirabeau, Bailly (Mayor of Paris), Robespierre, Count Scipio du Rome, Kit Potter M.P., the late - Perry Esq. of the Morning Chronicle, &c. with an account of the first Federation, & unpublished anecdotes, relating to the Bastille, the Temple, &c.

## THIRD AGE (p.2 in the original)

The writer returns from the Continent, when he accompanied his father on various Tours, & was subsequently articled to a Solicitor in Chancery, - the whole comprising a body of matter connected with Literature, the Arts etc.

## FOURTH AGE

A complete elucidation of every event connected with the Shaksperian Fabrications containing opinions of the Literati of every class; an examination of the several controversial works & pamphlets which emanated from the press on that occasion, deemed of such interest by the world of Letters, accompanied by anecdotic matter, - the whole condensing a fund of information, perhaps unrivalled in the literary annals of this country.



SECOND AGE

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of Orléans) (Regent), his  
brother, the Duke de Penthièvre; Necker,  
(Mayor of Paris), Robespierre, Comte  
de Mirabeau, &c. with an account of the  
unpublished anecdotes, relating  
to the Temple, &c.

THIRD AGE (p. 2 in the original)

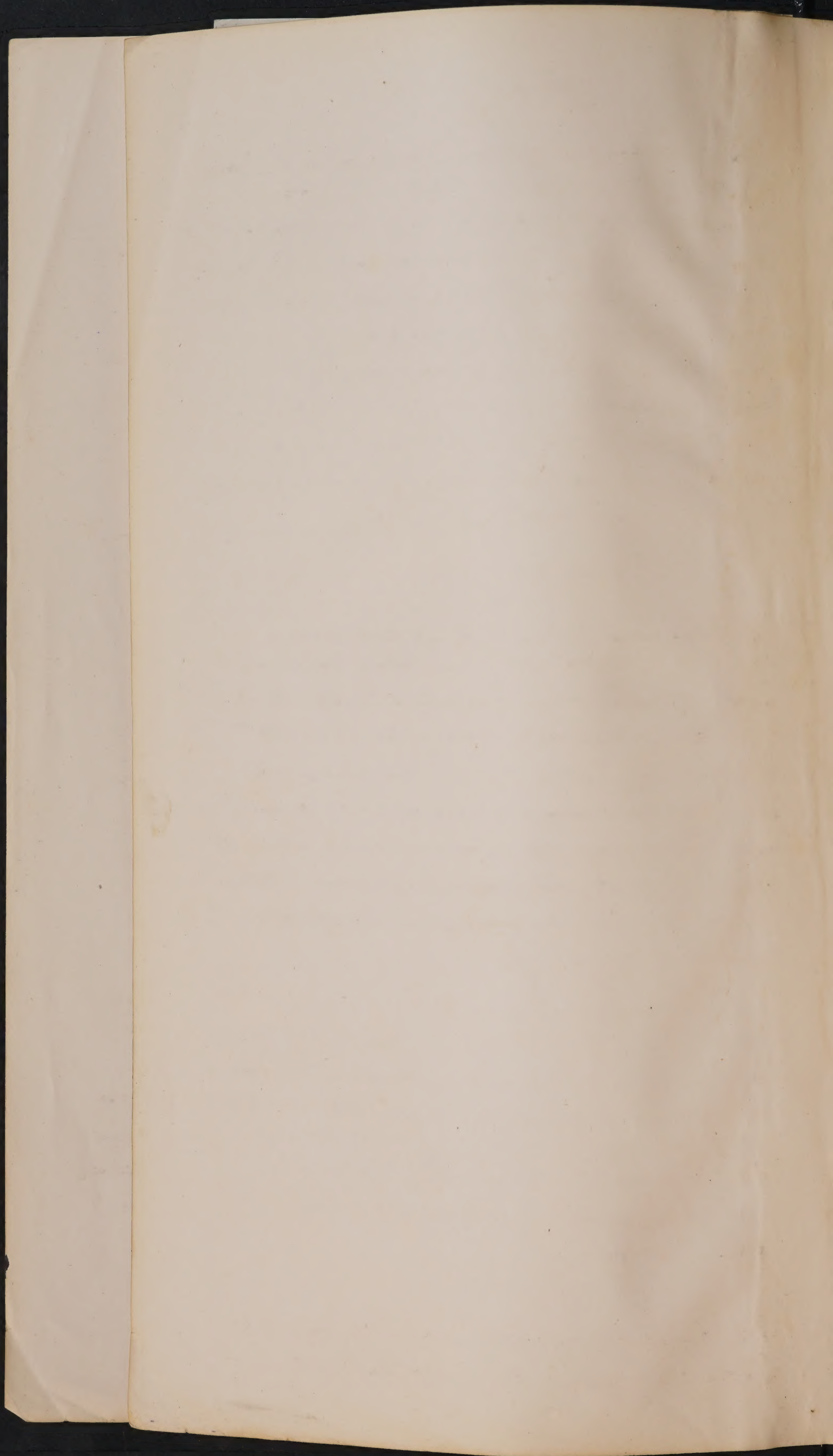
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FOURTH AGE

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every class; an examination of the  
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showing a kind of information, perhaps  
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# *Shakspeare Ireland's Seven Ages.*

## FIFTH AGE

The Author's weary pilgrimage during a series of years, buffet<sup>ed</sup> buffeted by the contumely of the world, & incessantly persecuted by those whom he unintentionally incensed by the production of his Shaksperian papers. This period embraces an association with individuals of every class from the Prince of Wales (his late Majesty, George IV) to all ranks of society, any attempt to enumerate prominent characters by name, under this section, would be superfluous; we must consequently close the subject of the present AGE, leaving the reader to form his estimate of its merits when issued into publicity.

## SIXTH AGE

Second residence of nine years upon the Continent, connection with the Literati of Paris, & account of Literature during the Hundred Days of Napoleon, Interviews with the Emperor, & anecdotes respecting that extraordinary man. The writer elected Member, & then Ancient of the Athenæum of Sciences & Arts at Paris, where indefatigable researches made him the vehicle of bringing to light numerous objects of Literary, Bibliographical, & Antiquarian rarity, which thereby found there way to this Country.

## SEVENTH AGE

From the Author's last return to England, to the present period, on which head he will not descant, the events being of such a varied character, as to preclude the possibility of condensing anything of a satisfactory nature in the prescribed limits of the present announcement.

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It is the fortunate destiny of some literary characters to find publishers who eagerly commit their lubri-



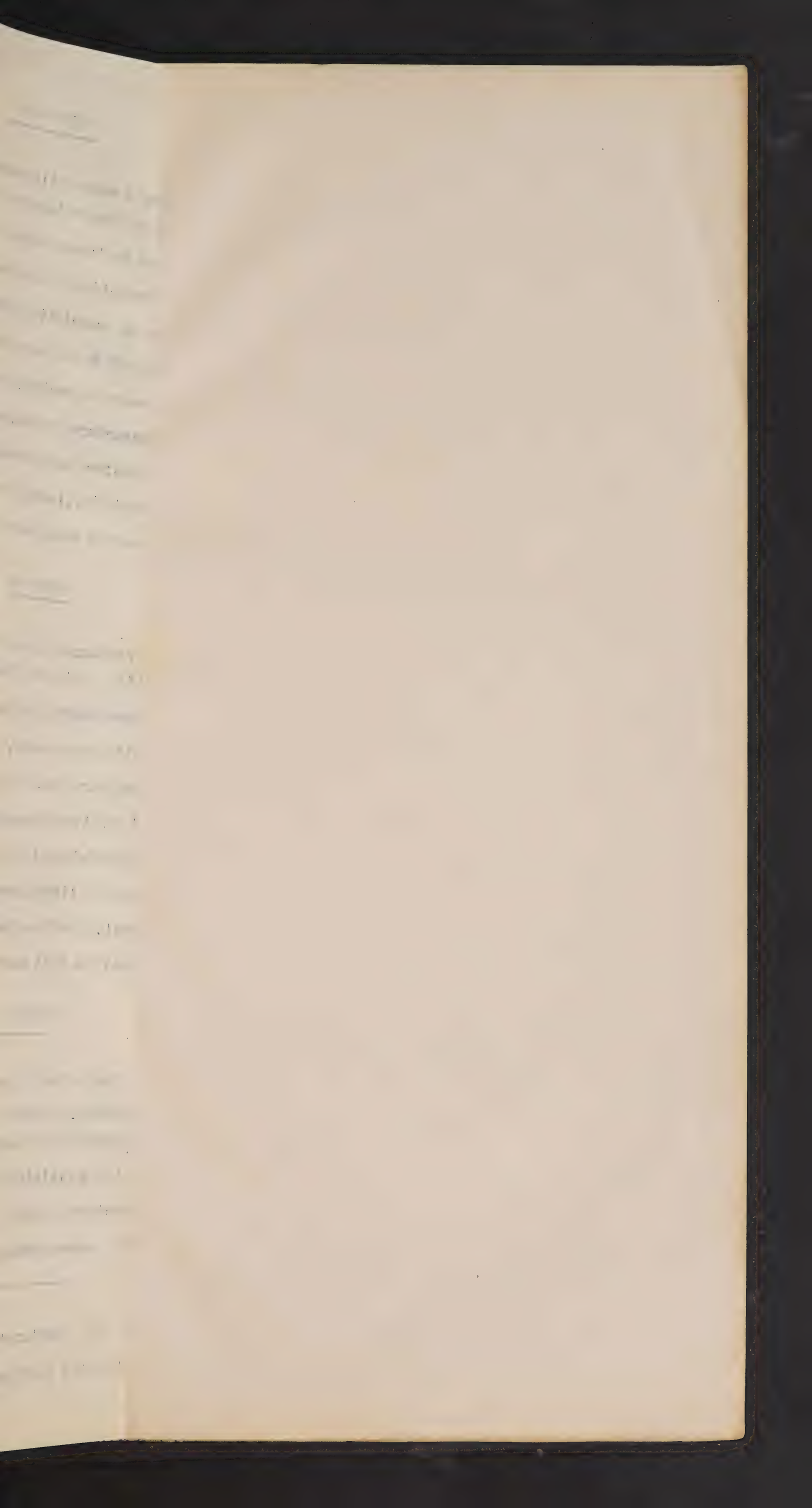
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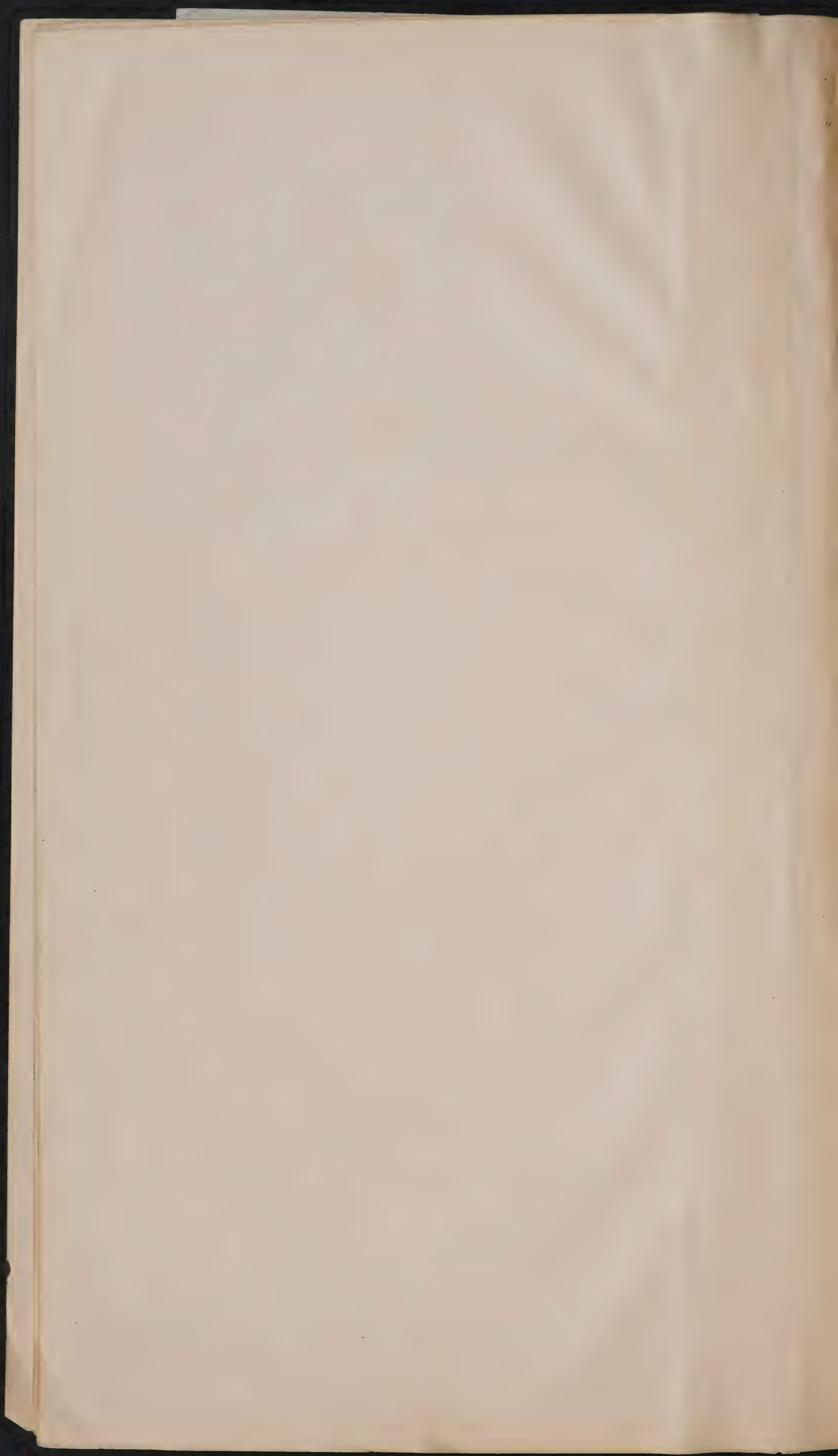
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## *Shakspeare Ireland's Seven Ages*

cations to the press, & in many instances reward their toils with munificence previous to the appearance of their works.

Such gentlemen flourish under far more propitious auspices than the writer, whose pretensions to authorship, however limited they may be, he nevertheless ventures to hope may entitle him to some share of praise, when the subject matter of his forthcoming reminiscences shall be ushered into publicity.

He feels emboldened to make this assertion, trusting that his pages will be fraught with as much anecdote & diversity of matter, as any evanescent production of a similar nature that has hitherto issued from the press.

Weary of applying to booksellers, & most anxious to retain the copyright of the present labour in his own hands, for the benefit of his children, the writer ventures to solicit the names of a certain number of subscribers, being necessitated to adopt this plan, under the following circumstances.

The expenses incidental to the publishing two handsome 8vo. volumes, with a portrait & other picturesque illustrations, in a style worthy to adorn the library of a man of taste, would amount to a disbursement beyond the writer's means.

Thus circumstanced it is proposed that, when sufficient names shall be procured to cover the expenses, a volume will go to press, & be delivered within two months from such period, the remaining portion of the MS. to follow with equal expedition; whereby two volumes, comprising one thousand pages, will be furnished in the lapse of four months.

To enter into a detail of the vexatious impediments & difficulties to which the majority of literary characters are subjected, in sending forth their labours, or to expatiate on the causes that conduced to impel the writer to have recourse to the present mode of publication, would be superfluous in this announcement,

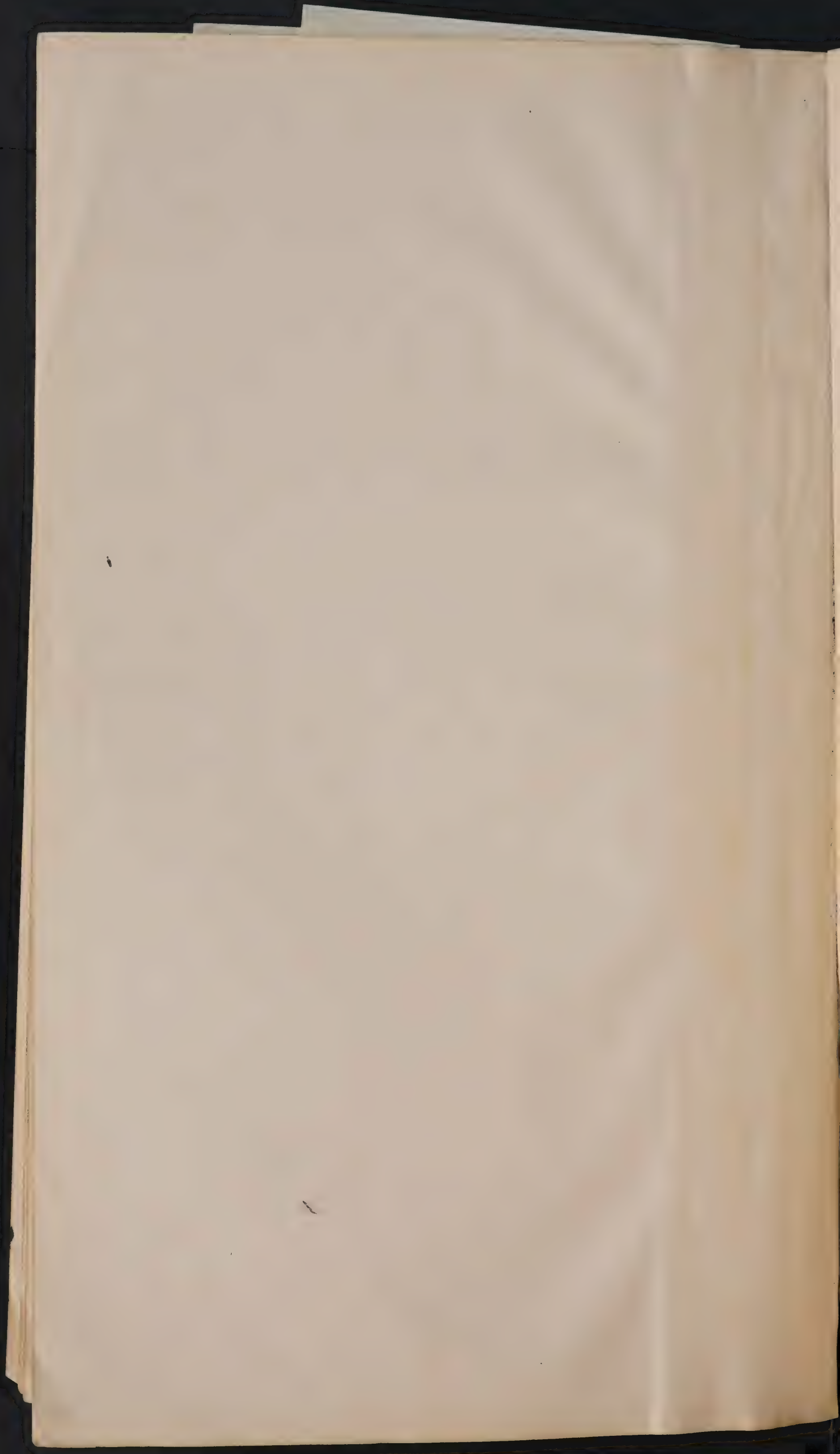














## *Shakspeare Ireland's Seven Ages.*

as every circumstance will be amply developed at the close of the undertaking.

Without further circumlocution, therefore, Mr. Ireland begs leave to state that he boldly ventures to ground his hope for public favour on the contents of the first volume, which in the opinion of several literary friends, has been pronounced replete with anecdotes, novel, instructive, & abounding in amusement.

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The Work will be handsomely printed in 8vo., price £1 - 12 - 0 the two volumes, embellished by a Portrait of the Author, & in the course of the Work will be introduced numerous fac-similes of handwriting, seals &c, illustrative of the text, more particularly that portion which refers to the Shaksperian productions.

Subscribers names received, & the Work to be published, by Mr. Miller, Bookseller, 137 Oxford Street.



Shakespeare's Sonnets

circumstances will be amply developed at the close of the work.

and further circumlocution, therefore, Mr. leave to state that he holds various hopes for public favour on the contents of the volume, which in the opinion of several persons, has been pronounced replete with interest, & abounding in amusement.

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to be handsomely printed in two, price 1s. the two volumes, embellished by a portrait of the author, & in the course of the work will be numerous fac-similes of handwriting, selected from the text, more particularly that which refers to the Shakespearean productions. The work is now in the press, & the work to be published, by Hooker, 137 Oxford Street.



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